Application No. 10/520,673

Response to Office Action dated January 17, 2007

Paper dated June 18, 2007

Attorney Docket No. 3988-045995

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims** 

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a reclosable pouring element comprising a pouring opening, a flange with a threaded ferrule, a closure film and a removable cap to a container having an opening, wherein the container comprises a body, a base and a lid, comprising the steps of:

connecting the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element to the lid of the container having an opening by affixing the flange of the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element to the lid in a liquid-tight fashion;

connecting the lid to the body in a liquid-tight fashion;

connecting the base to the body;

sterilising an interior of the container including the pouring opening;

filling the container with a product through the pouring opening;

closing the container by sealing the closure film onto the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element allowing the pouring opening of the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element to be closed in a liquid-tight fashion; and

applying the cap to the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element, wherein before sterilising, a section of the closure film is sealed on the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element allowing the pouring opening of the <u>reclosable</u> pouring element to remain open until filling.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the section of the closure film sealed prior to sterilising is sealed on onto the reclosable

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pouring element after applying connecting the reclosable pouring element and before the

sterilising to the lid of the container.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein

the threaded ferrule includes an unthreaded region and the section of the closure film

sealed prior to sterilising is sealed laterally on the unthreaded region of the threaded

ferrule.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein

the container with the reclosable pouring element affixed thereto and the closure film

sealed on the reclosable pouring element with the pouring opening still open, further

wherein the container is inserted with at least the lid having the reclosable pouring

element into a region delimited by side walls serving as a guide for a sterilising means in

a direction of the container and encloses tightly or with a small tolerance a circumference

of the container in a region of the lid having the reclosable pouring element.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein

the container with at least the lid having the reclosable pouring element remains in the

delimited region during a filling of the container and a liquid-tight sealing of the pouring

opening by sealing the closure film on the reclosable pouring element.

17 – 25. (Cancelled)

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